

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CAIRO 10359 081238Z
ACTION NEA-10

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S E C R E T CAIRO 10359

FOR SECRETARY BROWN FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP
SUBJECT: VISIT BY GENERAL GAMASY

REF: CAIRO 10133 (NOTAL)

1. AS YOU WILL BY NOW HAVE BEEN INFORMED BY STATE, GAMASY IS AGREEABLE TO JUNE 7 DATE TO BEGIN HIS OFFICIAL VISIT TO U.S. HE IS QUITE PLEASED AT YOUR THOUGHTFULNESS IN INVITING HIM. HE HOPES, OF COURSE, THAT BY THEN THE ARMS PACKAGE WILL HAVE SUCCESSFULLY CLEARED THE CONGRESS. IF IT IS TURNED DOWN, HE MAY WISH TO RECONSIDER GOING.

2. ON ASSUMPTION THAT ARMS PACKAGE GOES THROUGH AS PLANNED, QUESTION ARISES OF A SUITABLE ESCORT FOR GAMASY. I KNOW DOD HAS PLENTY OF OFFICERS FOR SUCH DUTY, BUT BELIEVE GAMASY VISIT WARRANTS EXTRA-SPECIAL HANDLING. WHILE GAMASY IS AN OUTSTANDING PROFESSIONAL OFFICER IN ANY LEAGUE, HE IS BY NATURE SHY AND RETICENT. HIS SHYNESS IS ESPECIALLY PRONOUNCED WITH PEOPLE HE DOES NOT KNOW AND IS OFTEN ACCENTUATED BY A CONSCIOUSNESS OF HIS IMPERFECT ENGLISH. (HE COMMUNICATES IN ENGLISH REASONABLY WELL, BUT AT TIMES HAS TROUBLE EXPRESSING
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HIMSELF.) MOREOVER, WHILE HE SHARES SADAT'S HOPE FOR MIDDLE EAST PEACE, HIS MILITARY BACKGROUND STILL MAKES HIM A BIT UNEASY ABOUT OUR DEPENDABILITY. I KNOW THAT HE IS NOT HAPPY WITH SOME OF THE MILITARY COOPERATION THAT SADAT HAS EXTENDED TO US. AT SAME TIME, HE HAS BEEN HELPFUL ON NAVAL VISITS TO ALEXANDRIA AND HAS EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS ASSIST IN OBTAINING FREE TRANSIT

OF USNPW'S THROUGH SUEZ CANAL.

3. GIVEN ALL THESE FACTORS, I THINK IT IS IMPORTANT THAT ESCORT OFFICER BE SOMEONE WHOM HE KNOWS. TWO POSSIBILITIES OCCUR TO ME. FIRST IS M/G LEROY SVENDSEN, MY FORMER DATT WHO IS NOW IN CHARGE OF AIR FORCE PERSONNEL. GAMASY DOES NOT NORMALLY SEE DATTS, BUT I ARRANGED THAT SVENDSEN MEET HIM AND AN EXCELLENT RELATIONSHIP DEVELOPED BETWEEN THE TWO. GAMASY LIKES AND RESPECTS SVENDSEN AS A FELLOW PROFESSIONAL AND FEELS AT EASE IN HIS COMPANY. SVENDSEN HAS ALSO BEEN STUDENT AT CARLISLE BARRACKS (AWC), WHERE GAMASY SPENT TIME IN LATE FORTIES AT SIGNAL SCHOOL AND WHERE HE WOULD LIKE TO VISIT AGAIN. SECOND POSSIBILITY IS MY PRESENT DATT, B/G JAMES C. PFAUTZ. LATTER KNOWS GAMASY, BUT DOES NOT YET KNOW HIM WELL. IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO PFAUTZ TO BE ABLE ACCOMPANY GAMASY. I WONDER IF YOU WOULD CONSIDER DESIGNATING BOTH THESE OFFICERS AS ESCORTS. SVENDSEN WOULD MAKE GAMASY FEEL AT EASE, WHILE PFAUTZ'S PARTICIPATION COULD BE OF LONGER TERM BENEFIT TO HIM IN HIS PRESENT ASSIGNMENT. EILTS

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